

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

2007

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina recognizes and values the dedication and entrepreneurial spirit of North Carolina's small businesses that keep the State and American economy growing stronger; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, there are 182,950 small businesses with employees in North Carolina, representing a majority of the total number of businesses with employees in the State; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, the income of North Carolina's small business owners totals \$17.7 billion, and these businesses employ 1.6 million North Carolinians or 48 percent of the State's non-farm private workforce; and

WHEREAS, it is the collaborative mission of North Carolina's State agencies, educational institutions and private sector organizations to help North Carolina businesses grow and create new jobs within the State by providing exemplary workforce training, business call centers, financial assistance programs, research and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina provides a wide array of services to small businesses, including community college small business support centers, the N.C. Small Business Technology Development Center, access to resources and assistance with business licenses through the Department of Commerce Business Service Center, matching funds for federal small business grants, and assistance to rural entrepreneurs through the Rural Center; and

WHEREAS, small businesses throughout North Carolina also receive assistance through the United States Small Business Administration (SBA), created through the ratification of the Small Business Act in 1953 with the mission to maintain and strengthen the nation's economy by providing access to capital, counseling, training and contracting to entrepreneurs and small businesses and by assisting families and businesses recovering from natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, during the week of April 22-28, 2007, the SBA is celebrating Small Business Week;

NOW THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 22-28, 2007, as "**SMALL BUSINESS WEEK**" in North Carolina and urge all North Carolinians to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements made by small businesses both locally and nationally.



MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capital, Raleigh this tenth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.